LITERARY MISCELLANY.

For the National Era. LEONARD WRAY

A ROMANCE OF MODERN HISTORY. By the author of " The Chronicles of the Bastin," The Emhassy," " The Yule Log," " Philip a Lutetta," &c.

CHAP. X-Concluded. "I believe," resumed the other, "it gives me

power to foreclose the mortgage, at any time, if I choose."
"Conditionally, on your giving to the other party, or to his attorneys, &c., fifteen days' notice," suggested the lawyer, stretching out his long fingers, and closing them again with a

vous twitch. Exactly; exactly," said Ayeling. "Now

tell me-suppose the party should be in France at this time, and I were to give him due notice.

at this time, and I were to give him due notice, would that be valid according to French law?"

"Perfectly so," answered the attorney. "Unless he have this large amount with him, or can command it on his credit, it would be impossible for him to prevent the forcelosure."

"I have thought of that, and am, I think, safe, so far. He is an over-scrupulous fool, who professes to have some conscientious notions about the sinfulness of holding slaves, and who would have set the whole lot he owns free, if his father had not, like a true Southerner, mortenged the protecty over and over again. mortgaged the property over and over again. The result of this fool's sorapulousness is, that he is poor, and obliged to depend upon the returns of a small share in a business in New York, whilst he lets his slaves work for the enefit of his overseers and the creditors of the

The legal spider smiled contemptuously at this sacrifice of personal interest to conscience, and expressed his inability to comprehend such

egregious folly.
"And this property," he remarked, sharpening his hard nails with a pen knife, "you with me to purchase?"

"Those is purchasing, and purchasing," re-plied the other. "You know what I desire and the simple question is, whether you will

"For a consideration of-well, never mind The terms are sufficiently liberal," resumed Gaetano, "and I sm not disinclined to assist you. I shall acquire all your rights, and so forth, and am to preceed against this Monsieur Wray as you shall direct."

Wray as you shall direct."

"No mercy!" gasped Mark.
"I clearly understand," said the attorney;
"I fully enter into your views. You say Monsieur Wray is in Paris."

"I met him, only a few evenings since, at a soirce," replied Mark; "I followed the back-

ney carriage that took them home"——
"Them?" ejaculated Peligrini. "Yes; she was with him," resumed the other.

She! You forget, my good friend "—

"True; you do not know. I mean that Leon-

ard and his sister were there, and that I have accertained where they are staying. They are at an hotel, not far from here."
"They must be watched," suggested the attorney.
- Do not lose sight of them an hour," re

"I observe, in the dead, the name of a slave, who bears the same name as the young lady you mentioned just now," said Pelligrint.

"Tis she—ste herself," exclaimed Mark,

vehemently; "as pretty a piece of property as a man ever had the chance of securing." "But did you not say she is eister to Mon-sieur Wray?" asked the attorney, opening his wk's eyes in some surprise.

Mark Aveling laughed contemptuously, but it was in bitterners of spirit.

"She's what we call a white negro in our country," he said. "There are thousands such. She is Leonard's sister, it is true, but only on the father's side. The mother of the girl was as near her color as two peas. They say she was one of Jefferson's descendants. You could not have distinguished her from a white; only for her hair. Old Wray bought her on speculation, but took such a fancy to her, that he and his wife quarreled on it, and parted. She caught the fever and died, in Charlesten, some ten months after. Milly Wray kept the old ten months after. Milly Wray kept the old man's house during this time, and this is how he came to bring up the girl he had by Milly, with his son Leonard. When she was seven years old, he sent her to school in the city of New York, where none knew but that she was Miss Mildred Wray, and Leonard's own born sister. Now and then she used to come home for a helyday, and then there would be great designs showing her off. At last the great products the state of for a helyday, and then there would be great doings, showing her off. At last she grew up to be a young woman, and the old man became ashaned to have her home any more, because of her origin. The secret was carefully kept from her brother, who nearly went mad when he at last discovered it. His father told him he intended to leave her free, but the young headstrong fool would not hear of his beautiful sister e being a slave, and would not sanction any act that established the fact. This fine centiment, however, did not smit the creditors; and when the old man died, she was included in the chattels and effects personal as a cluded in the chattels and effects personal, as a matter of course. My father was the largest creditor, and when he died I inherited the whole of his troperty; for you must know I am

motives which had induced Aveling to seek his co-operation. He had an instinctive apprehension that malice and cunning were coming into play, and would find employment for him. He stirred the fire, and gathered up his long limbs

to listen more attentively.

"As I knew the whole history of Mildred Wray," resumed Aveling, "I was not inclined to be talked of the wish I had long entertainto be talked of the wish I had long entertained of gaining possession of that pretty piece of property; so I went one day to Leonard and made a hid for her, effering to deduct the sun from the amount he owed me. He flew into a towering passion, and hade me leave the house. However, he calmed down presently; and when I had talked the matter over with him, he graw more reasonable, and said he would think over it. I allowed some time to pas, and as he did not take any notice, I went to him again. He told me he had made up his mind to decline binding himself to my proposition. I threatened to sell him up, but he did not care for that, he said, and so we parted On my way home, I bethought myself that if I attempted to carry out my threat, the other creditors would come in, and I might miss my object after all. So I went to work and bought them up, one after the other."

"Capital tactician," exclaimed the atterney, quite enraptured with the details of so consummate a villary.

"I thus became sole mortgages of the property," continued Aveling, "and determined now to secure the girl. I went again to Leonard, and told him how matters stood, but it was all of no use. He had taken care the girl should not know anything of what was going on, and kept the place where she was residing so close a secret, that it buffled my utmost efforts to discover it. At last she fell sick, and the physicians ordered her to the South for obange. Her native air was recommended, and, to save her life, she was brought back about—about—two years ago."

Mark's countenance changed, and be paused a moment.

"I am quite interested, observed Pelligrin, interething out his fingers again, in that old unsomfortable way of his.

"She remained there until her health was quite restored," resumed Aveling, speaking as shough his throat were dry, "during which

time I had frequent opportunities of seeing her. Unfortunately, I did not please her fastidious taste, and one day I discovered that I had a reval. But I—I will not detain you with-

raval. But 1—1 will not detain you with-with"—he stopped.

"Oh, pray do not mention that," said the attorney; "I do not wish to lose a word."

"Briefly," said Aveling, "I determined to recure possession of her. I concocted a plan for running her off, when I was informed one morning that her brother and she had left for the North. I went after them, without delay; but, having traced them to Washington, there host all clue to them. To have sold the property up, would not have accomplished my object; so I left the country, to visit foreign lands, consigning the care of my affairs to my agent, who is now in Paris concerning them."

signing the care of my affairs to my agent, who is now in Paris concerning them."

"I see, I see it all now," remarked Gaeiano "What you now want, is difficult and dangerous; but it may be done, if caution is used."

"Is it a bargain between us, Monsisur Pelligrini?" asked Aveling.

"Yan shall be aided to the extent of my ability," answered the other. "It is agreed."

They were still engaged discussing their plan of operations, when the lean man, Martin, returned. He gave the door a hard slam, as he came in, which made the ancient black spider in the corner draw further back into his hiding-place, and Guetano, the attorney, look hiding-place, and Guetano, the attorney, look up. Martin retired into his closet, without oticing his master and his client; and presently the two went out together, leaving with his head in his deek.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1854.

"THE DUTY OF TO-DAY."

In reply to a remark in the Era, that to vot or the re-election of a member to Congress simply because he had recorded his name egainst the Nebraska Bill, would be going a little too far, the Tribune says:

little too far, the Tribune says:

"Now the Tribune, certainly, has never proposed—at all events, never intended—that the naked fact that a member voted against the Nebraska bill on its final passage, should be taken as cenclusive proof of his soundness on the great question. On the contrary, it has with entire plainness of speech, exposed and rebuked the dodges of that slippery Pennsylvania Trout, and other loose fish, who voted against Douglas's bill on its final passage, but helped it along when it most needed their help during the progress of the struggle. Here is another of the sort—Mr. John Wentworth, from Chicago, Illinois—a noisy Wilmot Profrom Chicago, Illinou—a noisy Wilmot Provisoist in other days, who is reported by the Aurora Beacon, (III.) to have written home to one of his constituents as follows:

" WASHINGTON, March, 1854. Mr. D. Wheeler, Blackberry, Ill : "My DEAR SIR: We expect that the Ne-braska bill will come before the House in a faw days, when we hope to make short work of it

HAVE TOO MANY FAVORS TO ASK OF CUR SEN ATORS TO QUARREL WITH THEM.
"Yours, truly, Jno. WENTWORTH? "Here is the key to many a shuffling dodg-ing course on the Iniquity—Members having 'favors to ask' of the disbursers of public pat-ronage on the one hand, and constituents to obey and to hoodwink on the other. We want

no man re-elected who occupies this position no matter how he may have voted on any question connected with the Nebraska bill." We do not know anything about this letter, ascribed to Mr. Wentworth. It is best that he should see it, so that he may furnish his friends with the necessary explanation as to what he meant by making "short work of it," and "not quarreling" with Senators. It is but justice to Mr. Wentworth to say that there is nothing in his record, throughout the struggle on the Nebraska Bill, which indicates a disposition to play false to his constituents.

THE STATE OF CONNECT.CUT.

A great clamor has been raised about a nulfication act, said to have been passed within few days by the Legislature of Connecticut We find this act, with a report of the proceedngs thereon, in the New Haven Journal and Courier. It is entitled "An act for the Defence of Liberty in this State, and is as follows: An Act for the Defence of Liberty in this Stute, Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre

sentatives, in General Assembly convened : SEC. 1. Every person who shall falsely and maliciously declare, represent, or pretend, that any free person is a stave, or owes service or labor to any person or persons, with intent to procure, or to aid, or assist in procuring, the foreible removal of such free person from this State as a stave, shall pay a fine of five thousand dollars, and be imprisoned five years in the Connecticut State prison.

SEC. 2. In all cases arising under this act, the truth of any declaration, pretence, or representation, that any person being or having been in this State, is or was a slave, or owes or did owe service or labor to any other person or persons, shall not be deemed proved except by SEC. 1. Every person who shall falsely an

ersons, shall not be deemed proved except by the testimony of at least two credible witnesses testifying to facts directly tending to establish the truth of such declaration, pretence, or representation, or by legal evidence equivalent

SEC. 3. Every person who shall wrongfully and maliciously seize, or procure to be seized, any free person entitled to freedom, with in-tent to have such free person held in slavery, shall pay a fine of five thousand dollars, and be imprisoned five years in the Connecticut

be imprisoned five years in the Connecticut State prison.

Sec. 4. Upon the trial of any prosecution arising under this act, no deposition shall be admitted as evidence of the truth of any statement in such deposition contained.

Sec. 5. If, upon the trial of any prosecution arising under this act, any witness shall, in behalt of the party accused, and with intent to aid him in his defence, falsely and wilfully, in testifying, represent or pretend that any person is or ever was a slave, or does or ever did owe service or labor to any person or persons, such witness shall pay a fine of five thousand dollars, and be imprisoned five years in the Connecticut State prison.

Sec. 6. Whenever complaint or information shall be made against any person for any offence described in any section of this act, and upon such complaint or information, a warrant shall have been duly issued for the arrest of such person, any person who shall hinder or obstruct a sheriff, deputy sheriff, or constable, in the service of such warrant, or shall aid such accused person in escaping from the pursuit of such efficer, shall be imprisoned one year in the Connecticut State Prison.

Sec. 7. No declaration, pretence, or representation, that any person is or was an apprentice for such fixed term, shall be deemed prohibited by this act; and no such declaration, pretence, or representation, that any person is or was such an apprentice for such fixed term, shall render any person liable to any penalty under this act.

While the bill was under discussion in the

use, Jone 28th, Mr. Hyde remarked that it would pullify the provisions of the Constitution

and the laws of the land. Mr. Brandagee de-nied this—if he thought the bill in conflict with the United States Constitution, he would with the United States Constitution, he would ote against it. Mr. Oakley merely contended for the defence of liberty and the protection of freemen. South Carolina can take a Northern freeman and imprison him; and shall we not protect the rights of men in this State ? Mr. ornwell asked, will not the bill conflict with that part of the Fugitive Slave Law, relating to evidence? Mr. Brandagee answered, that the Commissioner is merely a ministerial offi-oer—he has nothing to do with judicial evidence-this law is designed to bring the matter where evidence can be presented.

Motions to amend, and to indefinitely postpone, were severally rejected, and the Bill then passed-yeas 112, pays 85.

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY IN MASSACHUSETTS

We rejoice to see that the first step towards the organization of a People's Party has been taken in Massachusetts. A correspondent, writing from Boston, says:

"You will see that the right movement for the new Freedom Party in this State has com-menced at old Concord, a most fitting piace, for here commenced the old fight for freedom, and here begins the new one. The public mind is all ripe for the formation of the new party."

Representatives of all parties attended the meeting at Concord, which was teld on the 22d. John S. Keyes, Sheriff of Middlesex county, presided. Nathan Brooks, Dr. Reynolds, and S. G. Wheeler, Whigs; W. E Rob inson and Ralph Waldo Emerson, Independent Democrats; C. C. Hazewell and Simon Brown, Democrats, were present, and took an active part. The following gentlemen were appointed a committee, to address the friends of free dom throughout the State: Samuel Hoar, C. C. Hazewell, D. Shattuck, Addison G. Fay, Simon Brown, and R. W. Emerson. In its circu lar, the committee says:

"The inhabitants of Concord, influenced by the feelings which seem to pervade the Com-monwealth, anxiously inquire what the free States will do, or should do, in relation to the Nobraska law. They think that no section of this State should adopt any practical measure which may conflict with the views and purpowhich may conflict with the views and purpo-ses of other parts of the Commonwealth. They desire to confer with some of their fellow-citi-zens in different parts of the State, on the sub-ject of calling a State Convention, to consider and determine what measures the exigency of the time demand of Massachusetta."

A Call for a State Convention is now in cir culation. The People are moving, and we hope the old political leaders and their organizations will have the good sense rather to aid than obstruct the popular movement.

EDUCATION IN GEORGIA.

Some of our exchanges in Georgia are laboring to arouse public centiment in that State t the deplorable lack of education among the people. A writer in the Federal Union says: "A generous patriotism is startled by the fact as it stood in 1840. Upwards of thirty thousand free, white, grown-up citizens in Georgia, unable to read or write a word of their mother tongue! This number equals the entire adult population of this State, as it stood soven years after the close of the Revolution. Ten years roll by, 1850 comes, and the number in that short time has swollen to forty-on thousand! Many have looked with anxiety a thousand! Many have looked with anxiety at these figures, (and surely not without the best of reasons,) who have not noticed the most distressing feature of the case. We refer to the rapidity with which the number of entirely uneducated freemen in Georgia increases. It increases more rapidly than the entire population does. By reference to the last census, will it be seen that between 1840 and 1850, the rate of increases of the white remulation was a little of increase of the white population was a little under 28 per cent. During the same time, the rate of increase of the number of adult citizens in the State, unable to read and write, was over 2416 per cent."

The whole white population in Georgia i 1850, above twenty years, was two hundred thousand, and in that year there were fortyone thousand, or rather more than one-fifth over twenty, unable to read or write! And yet scarcely a day passes in which we do not hear in Southern speeches or see in Southern papers, extravagant laudations of the system which produces such results as this.

THE GREENVILLE (S. C.) Patriot pominates Douglas for the Presidency, on the ground that he has "settled the Slavery question on the great principles of the American Revolution! and it has no doubt that the American People will elect him by acclamation. Pettit should run as Vice President on the same ticket, for having settled the meaning of those great prin-

JUDGE SMITH .- Some of the Caleb Cushing papers are denouncing Judge Smith, of Wisconsin, as an Abolitionist. The Milwaukie Dem-

"The 'Abolition functionary' referred to is an Old Line Democrat, who was a Democrat when this renegade from all parties (Cushing) was a Whig, an Abolitionist, and a Tyler

THE EATON (Ga.) Independent Press has hort way of disposing of the Cuban Question "The American Government," it says, "should go to Spain with the sword in one hand, and the purse in the other." Take this or thatif you won't sell you shall fight. The same paper, styling itself Democratic, and regarding itself as an organ of the great National Demo cratic party, says of Mr. Toombs, he "is to-day the ablest, boldest, and most fearless advocate of Slavery, and the social system of the South, that there is in America."

AN ANTI-NEBRASKA STATE CONVENTION in New York, it is said, will be held in Albany, July 13th. The formal call is not yet issued.

FOREIGN TOURISTS AND OUR PRESIDENTS -Nothing is more common than for foreigners, after visiting our Presidents, to fall into raptures about the beautiful simplicity and freedom with which they have been received-They go to the White House, expecting to see an array of supernumerary guards, gentlemen in black and powdered, solemnly waiting, cere-monials, and trappings and stately introduc-tions, after the fashions of the mummeries of the Old World. Their surprise knows no bounds when they find themselves suddenly, and with the slightest possible ceremony, introduced to the President, who shakes them by the hand, discourses gracefully of the weather, asks them how long since they left their own country, and perhaps by a casual remark shows that he read considerably about it. Overcome by their emotions, profoundly impressed by such sim-plicity and civility in the highest station, they

ties, has been made the subject of extravagant eulogy by certain foreigners, especially of the clerical order. We recollect how Mr. Fillmore and General Taylor were extelled by reverend gentlemen from abroad; and we now find the Administration papers, especially those which affect great contempt for English opinion, pub-lishing with exultation the following compli-ment to President Pierce, from Dr. Duff, lately

a delegate in this country from the Free

"With regard to the civil head of that great republic, I must speak of him as I found him. I was utterly astonished, after being accustomed to the unapproachable distance of their high mightinesses and other royalties in the Old World, to find the President of this great

Old World, to find the President of this great country, America, with a commerce nearly equal to our own, and resources which, in time, will prove vastly superior, coming down stairs like a private gentleman, plainly dressed, without fuss, or show, or parade; and demeaning himself with a benign kindliness of manner, as well as the greatest simplicity, calmness, and dignity, such as became the head of such a great country. Here there was no footman, or others arrayed in scarlet or golden drapery, or parti-colored raiment—no tinsel, no pomp, no display whatever. I have no wish to gratify a sickly taste, by making any reference to the style of western life, the household economy, or the private conversation; but I must say that the inquiries which this exalted personage made about sundry affairs, the knowledge which he possessed of what was going on everywhere, and the desire to know about the existing state of things, more particularly in Rritish India were of a nature to indicate that everywhere, and the desire to know about the existing state of things, more particularly in British India, were of a nature to indicate that he was a man of grasping and reaching intelligence; and, whatever might be the opinion of mere partisans, that he was one not unworthy to fill the high office which he holds as the head of the greatest republic he has ever

THE CONGRESSIONAL ANTI NERRASKA AD press is said by the Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer, to have been adopted at a full meeting of members, representing all shades of opposition to the repeal of the Compromise, and that it was reported from a Committee of thirteen members, of whom seven were Democrats, and six Whigs. The call of the Sentinel up in those who voted against the Bill, and yet disapprove of the address, to come out and say so, has not yet been responded to. We shall be happy to print such disclaimers whenever they are ready.

In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Sumner presented memorial for the repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law, and gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill for that purpose on Monday next. It will also be perceived that the consciences of Messrs. Clayton and Pettit are at great unrest on the subject of Slavery; and that they are zealous for the adoption of measures to abolish the African stave trade. Mr. Houston colightened the Senate in regard to the early struggles of Texas, and especially with respect to her navy, as conducted by Comm

The House, after a protracted siege of voting, disposed of the question of terminating the ses-sion, and then went into Committee of the Whole, on the private calendar, and took up the "Meade claim," upon the affirmative side of which Mr. Chandler delivered an elaborate

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS

The two Houses to-day concurred in a resonce, to adjourn sine die, at noon, on Friday, the fourth day of August.

This resolution will not be changed, unless (as is probable) the diplomatic measures of the Executive may require the presence of the Senate, to confirm, and of the House to unite in appropriating money to consummate, other nd more important treaties of annexation.

DEAD LETTERS .- Two little boys called at he Exchange Bank of Selden, Withers, & Co., this morning, to see if their money was good. One of them had a partially charred one-dollar bill, and the other a well-smoked eagle. They had picked them out of the rubbish recently sent from the Dead Letter Office; and they stated that many other boys were equally fortunate. We think this thing could be better managed.

The annual exhibition of the School of the Misses Tyson took place to-day. This is one of the best schools for girls of which our city boasts. It is located on F street, between 12th and 13th.

The United States steamship San Ja into, Captain Engles, yesterday morning dropped down the Delaware from Philadelphia preparatory to a trip to test the engines. Her orders are to be at sea not less than two days. and the design is to go to Bermuda, which will require about ten days.

At New York, on Thursday, the steamboat Buffalo, lying at her wharf on the North river, sunk to her upper deck, having on board at the time five hundred German emigrants for the West. They were all saved, with their baggage much damaged. The port-hole for-ward had been stupidly left open.

IF L. George Raub, a German, thirty even years old, said to have deserted his wife and three children in North Carolina, blaw his brains out with a pistol at Philadelphia vesterday

The Richmond Examiner urges the Government to get into a foreign war, to take the public mind off from exciting home questions! It wants Frank Pierce to play the old game of European despots—that of blinding the people to their own wants, by brilliant foreign military achievements. We think this will hardly go down with the American people. However, if, in a recess of Congress, the President commences a war, how will our Whig friends get out of the dilemma? In the Mexican war, they claimed that, though it was a wicked war, yet once commenced, it must be fought out. out of the dilemma; they claimed that, though it was a wicker they claimed that, though it was a wicker yet once commenced, it must be fought out. Free-Soilers protested against such a slim morality. If carried out now, all that the Administration has to do is, to get into war with Spain, and Congress will see that it is finished handsomely. The truth is, the opponents of a handsomely. The truth is, the opponents of a handsomely. The truth is, the opponents of a handsomely. war with Spain must give the slavery gands to understand that they will no supplies for a war in their interest, u

SPEECH OF HON, CHARLES SUMNER OSTON PETITION FOR THE REPEAL OF THE FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW.

In Senate of the United States, June 26, 1854.

In Senate of the United States, June 26, 1854.

Mr. SUMNER. Mr. President, I begin by answering the interrogatory propounded by the Senator from Tennessee, [Mr. Joxes.] He asks, "Can any one suppose that, if the Fugitive Slave Act be repealed, this Union can exist?" To which I reply at once, that if the Union be in any way dependent on an act—I cannot call it a law—so revolting in every regard as that to which he refers, then it ought not to exist. To much else that has fallen from that Senator I do not desire to reply. He has discussed at length matters already handled again and again in the protracted debates of this session. Like the excited hero of Macedonia, he has renewed past conflicts,

"And thrice he routed all his foes,
And thrice he slew the slain."

Of what the Senator has said on the relations of

And thrice he slew the slain."

Of what the Senator has said on the relations of Senators, North and South, of a particular party, it is not my province to speak. And yet I cannot turn from it without expressing, at least, a single aspiration, that men from the North, whether Whigs or Democrats, will neither be cajoled or driven by any temptation, or lash, from the support of those principles of freedom which are inseparable from the true honor and welfare of the country. At last, I trust, there will be a backbone in the North.

My colleague has already remarked, that this memorial proceeds from persons of whom many

memorial proceeds from persons of whom many were open supporters of the alleged Compromises of 1850, including even the odious Fugitive Slave Bill. I have looked over the long list, and, so far isili. I have looked over the long list, and, so lar as I can judge, find this to be true. And, in my opinion, the change shown by these men is typical of the change in the community of which they constitute a prominent part. Once the positive upholders of the Fugitive Slave Bill, they now

demand its unconditional repeal.

There is another circumstance worthy of especial remark. This memorial proceeds mainly from persons connected with trade and commerce. Now, it is a fact too well known in the history of England, and of our own country, that these per-sons, while often justly distinguished by their individual charities and munificence, have been individual charities and munificence, have been lukewarm in their opposition to slavery. Twice in English history the "mercantile interest" frowned upon the endeavors to suppress the atrocity of Algerine slavery; steadfastly in England it sought to baffle Wilberforce's great effort for the abolition of the African slave trade; and, at the formation of our own Constitution, it stipulated a sordid compromise, by which this same detest-ed, Heaven-defying traffic, was saved for twenty years from American judgment. But now it is all changed—at least in Boston. The represent-

all changed—at least in Boston. The representatives of the "mercantile interest" place themselves in the front of the new movement against slavery, and, by their explicit memorial, call for the abatement of a grievance which they have recently bitterly felt in Boston.

Mr. President, this memorial is interesting to me, first, as it asks a repeal of the Fugitive Slave Bill, and secondly, as it comes from Massachusetts. That repeal I shall be glad at any time, now and hereafter, as in times past, to sustain by vote and argument; and I trust never to fail in any just regard for the sentiments or interests of Massachusetts. With these few remarks, I would gladly close. But there has been an arraignment Massachusetts. With these few remarks, I would gladly close. But there has been an arraignment here to-day, both of myself and of the Commonwealth which I represent. To all that has been said against myself or the Commonwealth—so far as it is an impeachment of either—so far as it subjects either to any just censure, I plead openly, for myself and for Massachusetts, "not guilty." But pardon me, if I do not submit to be tried by the Senate, fresh from the injustice of the Nebraska Bill. In the language of the common law, I throw myself upon "God and the country," and claim the same trial for my honored Commonwealth.

monwealth.

So far as the arraignment touches me personally, I hardly care to speak. It is true that I have not hesitated, here and elsewhere, to express my open, sincere, and unequivocal condemnation of the Fugitive Slave Bill. I have denounced it as at once a violation of the law of God, and of the Constitution of the United States. In violation of the Constitution, it commits the great question of human freedom—than which none is more carred in the law—not to a solemn trial but to sacred in the law-not to a solemn trial, but to

summary proceedings.

It commits this question—not to one of the high tribunals of the land—but to the unaided judgment of a single petty magistrate.
It commits this question to a magis inted, not by the President with the he Senate, but by the court; holding his office ot during good behaviour, but merely

the will of the court; and receiving, not a regu-lar salary, but fees according to each individual ase.
It authorizes judgment on ex parte evidence
y affidavits, without the sanction of cross-ex-

It denies the writ of habeas corpus, ever known as the palladium of the citizen.

Contrary to the declared purposes of the fra pers of the Constitution, it sends the fugitive

mers of the Constitution, it sends the fugitive back "at the public expense."

Adding meanness to the violation of the Con-stitution, it bribes the commissioner by a double fee to pronounce against freedom. If he dooms a man to slavery, the reward is ten dollars; but, saving him to freedom, his dole is five dollars. But this is not all. On two other capital grounds do I oppose this act as unconstitutional; first as it is an assumption by Congress of nowergrounds do roppose this act as unconstitutions; first, as it is an assumption by Congress of powers not delegated by the Constitution, and in dero-gation of the rights of the States; and, secondly, as it takes away that essential birthright of the citizen, trial by jury, in a question of personal liberty and a suit at common law. Thus obnoxious, I have regarded it as an enactment totally devoid of all constitutional obligation, as it is clearly devoid of all moral, while it is disgraceful to the country and the age. And, sir, I have hoped and labored for the creation of such a public opinion, firm, enlightened, and generous, as should render the act practically inoperative, and should press, without ceasing, upon Congress for its repeal. For all that I have said on this head, I have no regrets or apologies; but rather joy and satisfaction. Glad I am in having said it; glad I am now in the opportunity of affirming

joy and satisfaction. Glad I am in having said it; glad I am now in the opportunity of affirming it all anew. Thus much for myself. In response for Massachusetts, there are other things. Something surely must be pardoned to her history. In Massachusetts stands Boston. In Boston stands Fancuil Hall, where, throughout the perils which preceded the Revolution, ou the perils which preceded the Revolution, our patriot fathers assembled to vow themselves to freedom. Here, in those days, spoke James Otis, full of the thought that "the people's safety is the law of God." Here, also, spoke James Warren, inspired by the sentiment that "death with all its tortures is preferable to slavery." And here, also, thundered John Adams, fervid with the conviction that "consenting to slavery is a swerilegious." tion that "consenting to slavery is a sacrilegious breach of trust." Not far from this venerable hall—between this temple of freedom and the very court-house, to which the Senator [Mr. Jones] has referred—is the street where, in 1770, the first blood was spilt in conflict between Brit-ish troops and American citizens, and among the victims was one of that African race which you so much despise. Almost within sight is Bun-ker Hill: further off, Lexington and Concord. Amidst these scenes, a slave-hunter from Virginia appears, and the disgusting rites begin by which a fellow-man is to be doomed to bondage. Sir, can you wonder that the people were moved?

"Who can be wise, amazed, temperate and furious, Loyal and neutral, in a moment? No man." It is true that the Slave Act was with difficulty executed, and that one of its servants perished in the effort. On these grounds the Senator from Tennessee charges Boston with fanaticism. I express no opinion of the conduct of individuals out I do say, that the fanaticism which the Senator tor condemns, is not new in Boston. It is the same which opposed the execution of the Stamp Act, and finally secured its repeal. It is the same which opposed the tea tax. It is the fanaticism which finally triumphed on Bunker Hill. The Senator says that Boston is filled with traitors. home of Hancock and Adams. He are those who are truly animated by the spirit of the American Revolution. In condemning them,

Here I might leave the imputations on Massachusetts. But the case is stronger yet. I have referred to the Stamp Act. The parallel is of such aptness and importance, that, though on a former occasion I presented it to the Senate, I cannot forbear from pressing it again. As the precise character of this act may not be familiar, allow me to remind the Senate, that it was an attempt to draw money from the Colonies through a stamp tax, while the determination of certain questions of forfeiture under the statute was delegated, not to the courts of common law, but to courts of admiralty, without trial by jury. This act was denounced in the Colonies at once on its passage, as contrary to the British Constitution, on two principal grounds, identical in character with the two chief grounds on which the Slave Act is now declared to be unconstitutional; first, as an assumption by Parliament of powers not belonging to it, and an infraction of rights secured to the Colonies; and, secondly, as a denial of trial by jury in certain cases of property. On these grounds the Stamp Act was held to be an outrage.

utrage.
The Colonies were aroused against it. Vir-The Colonies were aroused against it. Virginia first declared herself by solemn resolutions, which the timid thought "treasonable;" yes, sir, "treasonable," even as that word is now applied to recent manifestations of opinion in Boston. But these "treasonable" resolutions soon found a response. New York followed, Massachusetts came next. In an address from the Legislature to the Governor, the true ground of opposition to the Stamp Act, coincident with the two radical objections to the Slave Act, are clearly set forth, with the following pregnant conclusion:

"We deeply regret that the Parliament has seen fit to pass such an act as the Stamp Act; we flatter ourselves that the hardships of it will shortly appear to them in such a light as shall induce them, in their wisdom, to repeal it; in the mean time, we must beg your Excellency to excuse us from doing anything to ussist in the execution of it."

The Stamp Act was welcomed in the Colonies

'tion of it."

The Stamp Act was welcomed in the Colonies
by the Tories of that day, precisely as the unconstitutional Slave Act has been welcomed by imperious numbers among us. Hutchinson, at that time Lieutenant Governor and judge in Massa-chusetts, wrote to Ministers in England: "The Stamp Act is received with as much de-cency as could be expected. It leaves no room

cency as could be expected. It leaves no room for evasion, and will execute itself."

Like the judges of our day, in charges to grand juries, he resolutely vindicated the act, and admonished "the jurors and the people" to obey. Like Governors in our day, Bernard, in his speech to the Legislature of Massachusetts, demanded unreasoning submission. "I shall not," says this British Governor, "enter into any disquisition of the policy of the act. I have only to say it is an act of the Parliament of Great Britain." Like marshals of our day, the officers of the customs are recorded as having made "application for a marshals of our day, the officers of the customs are recorded as having made "application for a 'military force to assist them in the execution of 'their duty." The elaborate answer of Massachusetts—a paper which is one of the cornerstones of our history—drawn by Samuel Adams, was pronounced "the ravings of a parcel of wild enthusiasts," even as recent proceedings in Boston, resulting in the memorial before you, have been characterized on this floor. Was I not right in adducing this parallel?

The country was aroused against the execution

The country was aroused against the execution of the act. And here Boston took the lead. In

of the act. And here Boston took the lead. In formal instructions to her Representatives, adopted unanimously in town meeting at Fancuil Hall, the following rule of conduct was prescribed:

"We, therefore, think it our indispensable duity, in justice to ourselves and posterity, as it is our undoubted privilege, in the most open and unreserved, but decent and respectful terms, to declare our greatest dissatisfaction with this law. And we think it incumbent upon you by no income to join in any public measures for counterlaw. And we think it incumbent upon you by no means to join in any public measures for counternancing and assisting in the execution of the same. But to use your best endeavors in the General Assembly to have the inherent inalienable rights of the people of this province asserted, and vindicated, and left upon the public record, that posterity may never have reason to charge the present times with the guilt of tamely giving them away."

them away."

The opposition spread and deepened, and one of its natural tendencies was to outbreak and violence. On one occasion in Boston it showed itself in the lawlessness of a mob, of a most formidable character, even as is now charged. Liberty, in her struggles, is too often driven to force. But the town, at a public meeting in Faneuil Hall, called without delay, on the motion of the opponents of the Stamp Act, with James Otis as chairman, condemned the outrage. Eager in hostility to the execution of the act, Boston cherished municipal order, and constantly discountenanced all tumult, violence, and illegal proceedings. On these two grounds she then stood; and her position was widely recognised. In reply, March 27, 1766, to an address from the inhabitants of Plymouth, her own consciousness.

inhabitants of Plymouth, her own consciousness of duty done is thus expressed: "If the inhabitants of Boston have taken the legal and warrantable measures to prevent that mis-fortune of all others the most to be dreaded, the execution of the Stamp Act, and, as a necessary means of preventing it, have made any spirited applications for opening the custom houses and courts of justice; if, at the same time, they have borne their testimony against outrageous tumults and illegal proceedings, and given any example of the love of peace and good order, next to the consciousness of having done their duty is the satisfaction of meeting with the approbation of any of their fellow-countrymen."

Thus was the Stamp Act annulled, even before its actual repeal, which was pressed with assiduits by netition and remonstrance, on the next

ity, by petition and remonstrance, on the next meeting of Parliament. Among the potent influ-ences was the entire concurrence of the merences was the entire concurrence of the merchants, and especially a remonstrance against the Stamp Act by the merchants of New York—like that now made against the Slave Act by the merchants of Boston. Some asked at first only for its modification. Even James Otis began with this moderate desire. The King himself showed a disposition to yield to this extent. But Franklin, who was then in England, when asked whether the Colonies would submit to the act. if whether the Colonies would submit to the act, i nitigated in certain particulars, replied: "No never, unless compelled by force of arms." The great Commoner, William Pitt, in an ever-mem-orable speech, uttered words which fitly belong

orable speech, uttered words which fitly belong to this occasion. He said:

"Sir, I have been charged with giving birth to sedition in America. They have spoken their sentiments with freedom against this unhappy act, and that freedom has become their crime. Sorry I am to hear the liberty of speech in this House imputed as a crime. But the imputation shall not discourage me. It is a liberty I mean to exercise. No gentleman ought to be afraid to exercise it. It is a liberty by which the gentleman who calumniates it might and ought to to exercise. No gentleman ought to be afraid to exercise it. It is a liberty by which the gentleman who calumniates it might and ought to have profited. The gentleman tells us America is obstinate; America is almost in open rebellion. I rejoice that America has resisted. Three millions of slaves, so dead to all the feelings of liberty as voluntarily to submit to be slaves, would have been fit instruments to make slaves of all the rest. I would not debate a particular point of law with the gentleman; but I draw my ideas of freedom from the vital powers of the British Constitution—not from the crude and fallacious notions too much relied upon, as if we were but in the morning of liberty. I can acknowledge no veneration for any procedure, law, or ordinance, that is repugnant to reason and the first elements of our Constitution. The Americans have been wronged. They have been driven to madness. Upon the whole, I will bego leave to tell the House what is really my opinion. It is, that the Stamp Act be repealed, absolutely, totally, and immediately, and that the reason for the repeal be assigned, because it was founded on an erroneous principle."

Thus spoke this great orator, at the time tutelary guardian of American liberty. He was not unheeded. Within less than a year from its original passage, the Stamp Act—assailed as anconstitutional on the precise grounds on which we

unneeded. Within less than a year from its ori-ginal passage, the Stamp Act—assailed as incon-stitutional on the precise grounds on which we assail the existing Slave Act—was driven from the statute-book.

But, sir, the Stamp Act was, at most, an

but not the personal liberty of any man. Under it, no freeman could be seized as a slave. There was an unjust tax of a few pence, with the chances of amercement by a single judge without jury; but by this statute no person could be deprived of that vital right of all, which is to other rights as the soul to the body—the right of a man to himself. As liberty is more than property, as man is above the beasts that perish, as heaven is bigher than earth, so are the rights assailed by an American Congress above those once assailed by the British Parliament; and just in this proportion must be our condemnation of the Slave Act by the side of the Stamp Act. And this will yet be declared by history.

I call spon you, then, to receive the memorial, and hearken to its prayer. All other memorials asking for changes in existing legislation are treated with respect, promptly referred, and acted upon. This should not be an exception. The memorial simply asks the repeal of an obnoxious statute, which is entirely within the competency of Congress. It proceeds from a large number of respectable citizens whose autograph signatures are attached. It is brief and respectful in form; and, in its very brevity, shows that-spirit of freedom which should awaken a generous response. In refusing to receive it or refer it, according to the usage of the Senate, or in treating it with any indignity, you offer an affront, not only to these numerous petitioners, but also to the great right of petition, which is here never more sacred than when exercised in behalf of freedom against an obnoxious statute. Permit me to add, that by this course you provoke the very spirit which you would repress. There is a certain plant which is said to grow when trodden upon. It remains to be seen if the Boston petitioners have not something of this quality. But this I know, sir, that the Slave Act, like vice, is of so hideous a mien, that "to be hated it needs only to be seen;" and the occurrences of this day will make it visible and palpable to the people in n

PRINCETON, ILL., May 27, 1854.

To the Editor of the National Era: We have just heard of the passage of the Nebraska bill by the House of Representatives. Notwithstanding your constant warnings of the danger, it has taken us all by surprise, and men of all parties are loud in their denunciations.

nor patriotic for the Whigs to attempt to mo-nopolize the spirit of opposition aroused by this outrage, and to attempt to turn it solely to party account. Their endorsement of one of the Baltimore platforms is too fresh in the memory of all, to permit them successfully to change front so quick

hange front so quick.

Away with all parties, and lay down such a platform of principles as is demanded by the interests at stake and the evils to be opposed untrammelled by antecedents and past differ L. D. W.

MARLBORO', MASS., June 4, 1854.

MARLBORO', MASS., June 4, 1854.

To the Editor of the National Era:

The passage of the Nebraska fraud, and the following up with the enforcement of the Fagitive Slave Law the last week, have, you may well believe, opened a new chapter in the history of politice, not soon to be forgotten. Men of all parties come out boldly, and say, Throw up all party organization, and form one great Northern party, whose motto shall be, Freedom for all, and never cease our exertions till that be obtained, no matter what shall be the consequences. Let them take care of themselves. Down with the Slave Power, before it is too late. This must be done, and done quickly, or all will be lost.

ELBRIDGE HOWE

RAISIN, 2d mo. 22, 1854

To the Editor of the National Era:

If agreeable to thy feelings, wilt thou insert in the Era the following answer to Douglas's question in his speech in the Era of 2d month 9th, bearing date, "in the Senate, January 30,

In that speech I observed these words, "Does it require any higher degree of civilization, and intelligence, and learning, and sagneity, to legislate for negroes than for white men? If I may be permitted to reply, I would say, civilization, and intelligence, and learning, and sagacity, may and do legislate for white men; but it requires the religion of Jesus Christ with the pure spirit of his Gospel, of "deing unto others as ye would they should do unto you," to legislate for the enslaved negroes of

When inquisition is made for blood, what shall we answer, who have so long been our brothers' guilty keepers? May every free man in our country, who feels his responsibilities, rise in his might, and raise his voice against the sin of slavery, and its further extension, lest he too be counted with the guilty.

ELIZA R. WELLS.

NEWS FROM EUROPE The royal mail steamer Europa, with dates to the 17th of Jone, arrived at her wharf at 6 o'clock, last evening, 30th She brings seven-

A despatch received from Vienna, dated June 10th, states that the Russians had made another unsuccessful attack on Silistria on the 10th, when General Paskievitsch, the Russian commander, received a severe and painful con-tusion on the right leg. He had been compelled to delegate his command to Gortscha koff, and had been removed to Jassy.

A Turkish attack on the Island of Mokan which is held by the Russians, was also re

The Emperor Nicholas was shortly expected It was stated that the Porte had signified his

acceptance of the convention proposed by Austria with reference to the eventual occupation of the Principalities

A telegraphic despatch, dated Gothland
June 11, says that both the French and Eng

June 11, says that both the French and English fleets were at Borlsund, twenty miles from Sweabourg, and that they would attack the latter place on or soon after the 13th. There were sixteen Russian ships of war in Sweabourg, and they had blockaded the harbor by sinking a ship loaded with rocks.

The Baltic fleet was at Boresund, twenty

The Baltic fleet was at Boresund, twenty miles from Helsingfors.

Three British steamers had destroyed the ships, dock-yards, and stores, at Brakerstadt, on the north of the gulf of Bosnia, estimated at 350,000 roubles, and captured several vessels off Weaborg; and on the 1st of June, four steamers destroyed the ships, dock-yards, stores, &c., at Weaborg. The damage here was estimated at 400 000 roubles.

The news of the adhesion of Greece to the ultimatum of the Western Powers causes great surprise.

At Athens there is complete concord among

the ministers. The three dismissed Generals have made their submission.

Lord John Russell has been unanimously reelected to his seat in Parliament by the city of

The bill giving Canada an elective Senat has passed to a second reading in the Ho The weather in England was very dry.

causing some anticipations for the crops.

The Pays says that the question between France and the United States, arising out of the arrest of Mr. Dillon, is settled, nothing remaining for arrangement but the form of expensation to be given. pensauon to be given.

There is very wet weather in France, and i excites fears for the crops.

American securities are firm, with a large

business doing.

For floor there was a good inquiry, and
Baltimore and Philadelphia realized an advance of 6d. a 9d. on last quotations.